

MAELOR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
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A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1953.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present herewith my Annual Report for the year 1953.

The Estimated Mid Year population of the Maelor District is 6,200 as compared with 6,230 in 1952 and a 1951 Census figure of 6,760. This falling population is no doubt due to the egress of Polish people.

The number of births was 93 giving a birth rate of 14.70 per 1000 of the home population as compared with a rate of 15.5 per 1000 for England and Wales. The number of births was 15 less than in 1952 and the birth rate fell from 17.78 per 1000 of the population in 1952 to 14.70 in 1953.

The number of deaths was 89 giving a death rate of 14.21 per 1000 of the home population as compared with a rate of 11.4 for England and Wales. Of these total deaths in the District 58 occurred in local inhabitants and 31 occurred in Polish persons. So that a fair estimate of the death rate for local inhabitants is 11.6 per 1000 of the local population as compared with an estimated rate of 11.2 per 1000 in 1952

Of deaths amongst local inhabitants there were 28 males and 30 females, and the ages at death showed that 60.3% and 25.2% were between the ages of 45 and 69 years, so that 85.5% of all deaths occurred in people over the age of 45 years.

Tuberculosis accounted for 13 deaths, all of which were due to respiratory tuberculosis. So that tuberculosis was responsible for 14.6% of the total deaths. Of these deaths nine occurred in local inhabitants, so that although the high tuberculosis death rate of 2.1 per 1000 is recorded for the Maelor District, the true rate for the District is nil. Again I must record that the No. 4 Polish Hospital at Iscoyd is a hospital for the treatment of tuberculosis in Polish people and many of these have no domicile in Great Britain other than the hospital concerned, so that deaths are recorded in and returned as occurring in this Rural District.

With regard to Infant Mortality there were 5 deaths in children under the age of one year, 3 males and 2 females, the infantile mortality rate for the district being 53.7 per 1000 live births as compared with a rate for England and Wales of 26.8. Of the 5 infant deaths 3 were Polish babies and the other 2 were local babies. All except one died of congenital defects or prematurity.


The year under consideration was comparatively free from any major infectious diseases, though 2 cases of Poliomyelitis and 3 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified. There were no cases of diphtheria and the district rates for infectious diseases were generally lower than the rates for England and Wales.

In conclusion Gentlemen I must thank all concerned for continued support during the year, particularly your Clerk Mr. Mothersall-Buckley and your Sanitary Inspector Mr. R. L. Higgins.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. Cathcart.



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SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	29,749
Census 1951	6,760
Population (Estimated June 1953)	6,200
Density	0.2
Inhabited houses	1,391
New houses certified	27
Births	93
Birth rate per 1000	14.70
Deaths	89
Death rate per 1000	14.21
Deaths under the age of 1 year	5
Infantile Mortality per 1000 related Births	54.83
Death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis	2.09
Local Death rate (Estimated) per 1000	11.60
Tuberculosis per 1000	0.00

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

Rateable Value	£23,370.
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate	£ 93:-16:-0d.

The Rural District of Maelor is a completely detached part of Flintshire, situated to the South-east of the County on the English bank of the Dee. Set on the borders of England and Wales the area, roughly shaped like a diamond is 11 miles from East to West and 6 miles from North to South. The River Dee with Denbighshire beyond bounds the District in the West, whilst to the North lies Cheshire and to the East and South Shropshire.

The whole district is fertile and well cultivated so that the principal industries are agriculture and its associated rural undertakings.

It is one of the richest milk producing areas in the whole country.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES
IN THE AREA.

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority consist of:-

Medical Officer of Health

Dr Allen Cathcart, M.B., Ch.B: D.T.M. & H: D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector

Mr. R. L. Higgins, M.R.S.I.

2. Laboratory Facilities

This work is carried out by the Bacteriological Department Royal Infirmary, Chester, The Bacteriological Department of the University of Liverpool and the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Conway, the latter being used particularly for the Bacteriological Examination of Water Samples. The Examination of Milk Samples is done at the University College of North Wales, Bangor.

3. Ambulance facilities

With the coming into effect of the National Health Service, these facilities are now under the control of the Deeside and Clwyd Hospital Board and the Flintshire County Council.

4. Hospitals

Infectious diseases - Wrexham Isolation Hospital.

General - Hospitals outside the County are used for general cases:-

Royal Infirmary, Chester.
Wrexham War Memorial Hospital.
Wrexham Emergency Hospital
Ellesmere Cottage Hospital.
Whitchurch Cottage Hospital.

It may be mentioned here that two large Ministry of Pensions Hospitals for Polish Persons are situated in the area:

(a) No. 3 Polish General Hospital situate at Penley - general cases.

(b) No. 4 Polish General Hospital situate at Iscoyd for tuberculosis.

5. Maternity

Patients are admitted when necessary to a Maternity Home either at Gresford or Wrexham (both homes being outside the County).

6. Clinics

During the year a Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic at Penley continued to function satisfactorily. Extremely valuable help from a Voluntary Welfare Committee of local ladies is very much appreciated by all concerned with the running of this Clinic

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS
DISEASES

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria Prophylactic Antigen is issued free to Medical Practitioners for the immunization of children in the area. In addition children are immunized at the Child Welfare Clinic, Penley and in Schools.

During the year 48 children under the age of 9 years were immunized. Of these 45 were under the age of 2 years. This is satisfactory.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action was taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action taken.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Small Pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	3	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	-
Measles	35	-	-
Whooping Cough	6	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis -			
Paralytic	1	1	-
Non Paralytic	1	1	-

CAUSES OF DEATH

<u>ALL CAUSES</u> -----		<u>M</u> 55	<u>F</u> 34
1.	Tuberculosis Respiratory	11	2
2.	Tuberculosis other	-	-
3.	Syphilitic Disease	2	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal Infections	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-
9.	Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases	-	-
10.	Malignant Neoplasm (Stomach)	1	-
11.	Malignant Neoplasm (Lung. Bronchus)	1	-
12.	Malignant Neoplasm (Breast)	-	1
13.	Malignant Neoplasm (Uterus)	-	1
14.	Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	6	3
15.	Leukaemia Aleukasmia	2	-
16.	Diabetes	-	-
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	7	6
18.	Coronary Disease (Angina)	7	4
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	2
20.	Other Heart Disease	7	4
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	-	-
22.	Influenza	-	1
23.	Pneumonia	-	-
24.	Bronchitis	-	-
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	-
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	-
27.	Gastritis Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-
30.	Pregnancy Childbirth	-	-
31.	Congenital Malformations	2	-
32.	Other Defined or ill-defined Diseases	5	8
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-
34.	All other Accidents	-	-
35.	Suicide	-	1
36.	Homicide and Operations of War	-	-

Total Deaths 89

Death Rate 14.21 per 1000
Home Population.

Local Death Rate ... 11.6 per 1000
Local Inhabitants.

MEMORANDUM

TO : [illegible]
FROM : [illegible]
SUBJECT : [illegible]
[illegible text follows in several paragraphs]

Very truly yours,
[illegible signature]
[illegible name]
[illegible title]

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

DURING THE YEAR 1953.

Disease	Under 1	1 and under 3	3 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	Over 25	Non Civil -ian	Total
Small Pox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	3
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia } Neonatorum }	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	1	3	10	17	2	-	2	-	35
Whooping Cough	-	1	4	1	-	-	-	-	6
Cerebro Spinal } Fever }	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2

TUBERCULOSIS

Tabulated new cases for 1953.

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-
1-5	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	1	1
10-25	-	-	-	-	-
25-35	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	2	1	-	-	3
45-55	1	1	-	-	2
55-65	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-



EXTRACTS from the VITAL STATISTICS for the YEAR

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>BIRTHS</u>	LEGITIMATE	44	47	91
	ILLEGITIMATE	-	2	2
	Total	44	49	93

Birth rate per 1,000 population 14.7
 Birth rate England and Wales 15.5

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>	LEGITIMATE	-	1	1
	ILLEGITIMATE	-	-	-
	Total	-	1	1

Rate per 1,000 population 0.35
 Rate for England and Wales 0.32

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>DEATHS</u>	55	34	89

Death rate per 1,000 population 14.2
 Death rate for England and Wales 11.4

Deaths from diseases and accidents of
 Pregnancy and Child Birth: Nil

From Sepsis Nil

From other causes Nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	3	2
Illegitimate	-	-
Total	3	2

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE

All infants per 1,000 live births 54.8
 Rate for England and Wales 26.8

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-	-
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	8	5

Comparative Table of Birth Rates, Civilian
Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and
Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in 1953.

<u>BIRTHS</u>	Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population	
	<u>England & Wales</u>	<u>Maelor R.D.</u>
Live Births	15.5	14.70
Still Births	0.35	0.32
<u>DEATHS</u>		
All Causes	11.4	14.21
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.24	2.09
Influenza	0.15	0.16
Small Pox	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis)	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.57	0.00
<u>NOTIFICATIONS</u>		
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.00
Meningococcal Infection	0.04	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.50	0.48
Whooping Cough	3.72	0.96
Diphtheria	0.01	0.00
Erysipelas	0.14	0.00
Small Pox	0.00	0.00
Measles	11.27	5.63
Pneumonia	0.92	0.32
Acute Poliomyelitis & Paralytic	0.06	0.16
Polioencephalitis) Non Paralytic	0.03	0.16
Food Poisoning	0.25	0.00

RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS

<u>DEATHS</u>			
All causes under 1 year of age	-	26.8	54.83
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	-	0.00	0.00
<u>NOTIFICATIONS</u>		Rates per 1,000 Total (Live & Still Births)	
Puerperal Fever & Pyrexia		18.23	0.16

INFANTILE MORTALITY

DEATHS OF INFANTS under 1 year of Age

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 Live Births</u>
Total	3	2	
Legitimate	3	2	54.83
Illegitimate	-	-	

The causes of infantile deaths were as follows:-

	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1.	Male	1 day	Prematurity	Pole.
2.	Male	4 weeks	Angenital heart & Prematurity	Pole.

	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Causes</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
3.	Male	1 month	Meningo myelocoele, Meningitis	Pole
4.	Female	6 weeks	Gastro Enteritis & Convulsions	Local
5.	Female	11 months	Broncho pneumonia, Hydrocephalus	Local

Congenital defects or prematurity caused or contributed to the deaths of 4 of the 5 infant deaths.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. MILK SUPPLY

Milk production continues to be the major agricultural industry. Supplies are collected at the farms in transport organised by the various milk depots only one of which is actually situated in the Council's area. The modernisation of the farm buildings including new cowhouses and dairies has made satisfactory progress, and the number of farms that have attained Attested standard compares very favourably with the adjoining districts. It is noticeable that some of the larger holdings have turned over to cheese making.

2. MILK SAMPLES

The County Police and County Sanitary Inspector undertaking the sampling of milk under the Food and Drugs Acts.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER - The provision of piped water supplies to the remote hamlets and individual premises has been somewhat curtailed by the restrictions imposed on the Local Water Authorities by the bulk suppliers The Liverpool Corporation Waterworks Department. As soon as supplies from the Vyrnwy Aqueduct are more plentiful it is the Council's intention to continue the policy of extension of mains to properties in need of an improved water supply.
2. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL - As stated in my previous report the Council is giving consideration to the provision of a new sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Bangor Isycoed, and the modernisation and extension of the existing system at Overton-on-Dee. The preliminary reports on these two schemes have now been completed and will be submitted for approval in principle in the very near future.
3. PUBLIC CLEANSING - Refuse Collection arrangements for Parishes other than Overton and Bangor Isycoed have not yet been confirmed by the respective Parish Councils, but it is almost certain that schemes will be in operation for Worthenbury and Bettisfield at the commencement of the next financial year.
4. SHOPS AND OFFICES - No action has been necessary.
5. CAMPING SITES - No camping sites existing within the district.
6. SMOKE ABATEMENT - No action has been required.
7. SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS - None in existence in the district.
8. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS - No action has been found necessary.
9. RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911 & 1928 - No action has been found necessary.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. - INSPECTIONS

Premises (I)	M/C line No. (2)	No. on Register. (3)	Inspect- ions (4)	Number of: Written Notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	M/C line No. (7)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	4	6	Nil	Nil	1
(2) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	13	15	Nil	Nil	2
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3
TOTAL -	6	17	21	Nil	Nil	6

2. - CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (I)	M/C line No. (2)	Found. (3)	Remedied. (4)	Number of Defects: Referred to H.M. Inspector. (5)	Offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (6)	M/C line No. (7)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	4	1	1	-	-	4
Overcrowdings (S.2)	5	Nil	Nil	-	-	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	Nil	Nil	-	-	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	Nil	Nil	-	-	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	1	1	-	-	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):						
(a) insufficient	9	3	3	-	-	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	1	1	-	-	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	Nil	Nil	-	-	11
Other offences against the Act.	12	Nil	Nil	-	-	12
TOTAL -	60	6	6	Nil	Nil	60

